



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 1

Application Number	10/627,137
Filing Date	07/24/2003
First Named Inventor	Kamaljit S. Paul
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	29655-1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
AS		EP 1 169 971	01/09/2002	Stryker Spine	

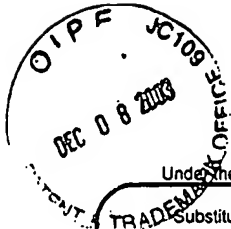
**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³ See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁷ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

5

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/627,137
Filing Date	07/24/2003
First Named Inventor	Kamaljit S. Paul
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	29655-1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,503,848	03/12/1985	Caspar et al.	
		US- 5,324,290	06/28/1994	Zdeblick et al.	
		US- 5,344,421	09/06/1994	Crook	
		US- 5,569,251	10/29/1996	Baker et al.	
		US- 5,578,034	11/26/1996	Estes	
		US- 5,616,142	04/01/1997	Yuan et al.	
		US- 5,616,144	04/01/1997	Yapp et al.	
		US- 5,676,666	10/14/1997	Oxland et al.	
		US- 5,681,311	10/28/1997	Foley et al.	
		US- 5,728,127	03/17/1998	Asher et al.	
		US- 5,876,402	03/02/1999	Errico et al.	
		US- 5,904,683	05/18/1999	Pohndorf et al.	
		US- 5,951,558	09/14/1999	Fiz	
		US- 5,954,722	09/21/1999	Bono	
		US- 6,017,345	01/25/2000	Richelsoph	
		US- 6,030,389	02/29/2000	Wagner et al.	
		US- 6,106,557	08/22/2000	Robioneck et al.	
		US- 6,129,730	10/10/2000	Bono et al.	
		US- 6,139,550	10/31/2000	Michelson	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 00/24325	05/04/2000	Alphatec Manu.		
		WO 00/64359	11/02/2000	Harrington		
		WO 01/26566	04/19/2001	SDGI Holdings		
		WO 01/26567	04/19/2001	Interpore Cross		
		FR 1,505,513	12/15/1967	Benoist&Girard		
		FR 2,778,088	11/05/1999	Societe De Fabr		

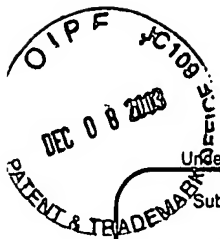
Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

12/4/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

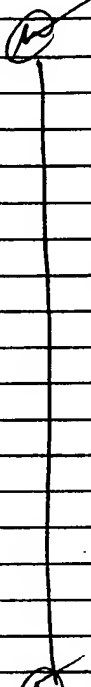

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/627,137
Filing Date	07/24/2003
First Named Inventor	Kamaljit S. Paul
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	29655-1

Sheet 2 of 5

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,152,927	11/28/2000	Farris et al.	
		US- 6,159,213	12/12/2000	Rogozinski	
		US- 6,193,721	02/27/2001	Michelson	
		US- 6,224,602	05/01/2001	Hayes	
		US- 6,235,034	05/22/2001	Bray	
		US- 6,238,396	05/29/2001	Lombardo	
		US- 6,241,731	06/05/2001	Fiz	
		US- 6,293,949	09/25/2001	Justis et al.	
		US- 6,306,139	10/23/2001	Fuentes	
		US- 6,364,881	04/02/2002	Apgar et al.	
		US- 6,402,756	06/11/2002	Ralph et al.	
		US- 6,454,771	09/24/2002	Michelson	
		US- 6,458,133	10/01/2002	Lin	
		US- 6,503,250	01/07/2003	Paul	
		US- 6,533,786	03/18/2003	Needham et al.	
		US- 6,602,255	08/05/2003	Campbell et al.	
		US- 6,602,256	08/05/2003	Hayes	
			US- 2002/0151899	10/17/2002	Bailey et al.
		US- 2003/0018335	01/23/2003	Michelson	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		DE 28 08 971	09/06/1979	Stocksmeier		
		DE 44 09 833	10/05/1995	Biedermann Mote		

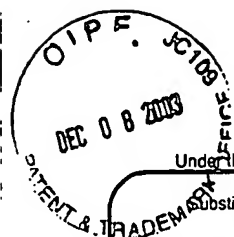
Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

12/15/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3 of 5

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/627,137
Filing Date	07/24/2003
First Named Inventor	Kamaljit S. Paul
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	29655-1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
[Signature]		US- 2003/0045880	03/06/2003	Michelson	
		US- 2003/0083658	05/01/2003	Hawkes et al.	
		US- 2,406,832	09/03/1946	Hardinge	
		US- 2,486,303	10/25/1949	Longfellow	
		US- 4,246,660	01/27/1981	Wevers	
		US- 4,513,744	04/30/1985	Klaue	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶

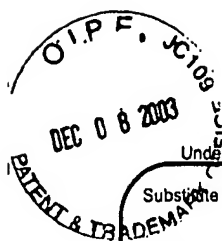
Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

12/4/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/627,137		
		Filing Date	07/24/2003		
		First Named Inventor	Kamaljit S. Paul		
		Art Unit	3732		
		Examiner Name	Unassigned		
Sheet	4	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	29655-1

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		"Blackstone™ Anterior Cervical Plate," Blackstone Medical Inc., Product literature, date unknown, 4 sheets.	
		"CSLP Variable Angle: For Use with the Cervical Spine Locking Plate System," Technique Guide, 2000 SYNTHES® Spine, 14 sheets double-sided.	
		Zdeblick, M.D., Thomas A. et al. "PREMIER™ ANTERIOR CERVICAL PLATE SYSTEM." Surgical Technique, 2000 Medtronic Sofamor Danek, 15 sheets double-sided.	
		Health Journal, Tara Parker-Pope, The Wall Street Journal, 01/2001, 1 sheet.	
		C-TEK Anterior Cervical Plate, 2001 Interpore Cross International, 1 sheet.	
		C-TEK Anterior Cervical Plate System, Interpore Cross, 10/2000, 1 sheet.	
		WINDOW Cervical Stabilization System, 2000 Endius, Inc., 5 sheets double-sided.	
		CASPAR Instruments for Anterior Cervical Fusion, AESCULAP, date unknown, 2 sheets double-sided.	
		NDC Internet data sheets, date unknown, 3 sheets.	
		Ni-Ti alloy Internet Data Sheets, printed 12/05/2001, 4 sheets.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	12/8/05
--------------------	--	-----------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.


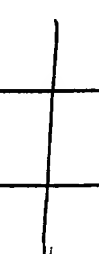

Q.I.P.E. JC109
 DEC 08 2003
 U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/627,137	Filing Date	07/24/2003
		First Named Inventor	Kamaljit S. Paul	Art Unit	3732
		Examiner Name	Unassigned	Attorney Docket Number	29655-1
		Sheet	5	of	5

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		AESCULAP, Advanced Biomechanical Concept, date unknown, 11 sheets.	
		ORIA Zenith, Product Specifications, 03/2003, 18 sheets.	
		ZENITH, the perfect alliance for successful cervical fusions, Internet data sheets downloaded 04/2003, 2 sheets.	
		Patent Application, Serial #10/014,409, filed 12/14/01, Bone Support Assembly, 13 sheets double-sided.	
		"The Market for Spinal Implants," Internet data sheets downloaded 05/2001, 4 sheets.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	12/2/03
--------------------	---	-----------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.